

PATENT
674523-2005.2

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kingsman, *et al.*
Serial No. : 10/661,761
Filed : September 11, 2003
For : **RETROVIRAL VECTORS**
Examiner : D. Nguyen
Group Art Unit : 1632

745 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: **Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 1, 2005.**

Thomas J. Kowalski, Reg. No. 32,147

(Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative)

Thomas J. Kowalski
Signature

June 1, 2005

Date of Signature

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby petition to make special this application for accelerated examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.102(d) and M.P.E.P. § 708.02, item VII, "Inventions Relating to Recombinant DNA." This invention provides lentiviral-based vector particles designed to improve the safety and efficiency of recombinant DNA delivery. It does so by providing a vector system that lacks auxiliary genes normally present in the virus, thus reducing pathogenicity. A primary use of the claimed invention is to deliver a gene of interest encoding a therapeutic protein, providing treatment for a wide variety of diseases. The invention is particularly well-suited for treating neurological diseases, due to the vector particles' ability to infect non-proliferating cells such as neurons. As such, this application qualifies to be made special under M.P.E.P. § 708.02, item VII.

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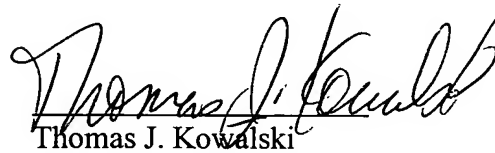
A check for \$130.00 in payment of the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(h) is enclosed. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additionally required fee for this Petition or to credit any overpayment in such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

If any issues remain, or if the Special Program Examiner has any suggestions, s/he is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below. The SPE's consideration of this matter is appreciated and an expedited examination is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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